

11
CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A support for an article of furniture of furniture having an opening defined by an edge, comprising:

a body having a boss that includes a plurality of collapsible mounting boss sections that define an axial passage therebetween and extending through the body, wherein engagement with the edge of the opening in the article of furniture causes the mounting boss sections to move radially inward relative to the edge of the opening toward a collapsed condition; and

10 a wedge configured to be driven by an applied force into the passage of the body, wherein the driven wedge moves the boss sections apart against the edge of the opening to secure the body member to the article of furniture.

2. The support of claim 1, wherein the wedge is initially formed in an extended position, wherein the wedge is interconnected with the body via one or more frangible connectors, and wherein the one or more frangible members are operable to break when the wedge is subjected to an applied force that tends to move the wedge from the 5 extended position into the passage defined by the boss sections.

3. The support of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of mounting boss sections includes a free end having a tapered edge configured to enhance insertion of the mounting boss sections into the opening.

4. The support of claim 1, wherein adjacent mounting boss sections define a space therebetween.

5. The support of claim 4, wherein the wedge includes one or more radially-outward extending guide members aligned generally perpendicular relative to one another.

6. The support of claim 5, wherein the one or more radially-outward extending guide members are operable to move into the aligned space defined by adjacent mounting boss sections, respectively.

12

7. The support of claim 6, wherein one or more of the radially-outward extending guide members includes a tab extending radially outward from the guide member, and wherein the body includes one or more slots configured to receive the tab.

8. The support of claim 1, wherein the wedge includes a first end and a second end, wherein the body includes an upper surface and lower surface, and wherein the first end of the wedge and the upper surface of the body are arcuate-shaped.

9. The support of claim 8, wherein the second end of wedge and the lower surface of the body are arcuate-shaped.

10. A method of mounting a support to an article of furniture having an opening defined by an edge of the furniture construction, comprising the steps of:

inserting a mounting boss associated with the support into the opening, wherein the mounting boss includes a plurality of mounting boss sections that define a passage therebetween;

moving the plurality of boss sections to radially inward to a collapsed condition;

driving a wedge into the passage defined by the plurality of boss sections; and moving the plurality of boss sections radially outward against the edge

10 defining the opening by movement of the wedge, such that the support is secured to the article of furniture.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the wedge is formed integrally with the body and interconnected by a frangible connector that maintains the wedge in an extended position relative to the body, and wherein the driving step includes breaking the frangible connector between the wedge and the body to enable inward movement of the 5 wedge into the passage.

12. The method of claim 11, the method further including the step of aligning a bottom end of the wedge with a lower surface of the body.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the wedge includes a plurality of guide members extending radially outward relative to one another, wherein adjacent boss

13

sections define a space therebetween, and wherein the method includes the step of driving each of the guide members into one of the spaces defined between adjacent boss sections.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the body includes a first and a second slot in communication with the passage and generally aligned along a longitudinal axis of the body, wherein two of the guide members of the wedge include a tab extending radially outward from the guide member in general alignment with the first and second slots, and
5 wherein the method further includes driving the tabs into the respective slots to secure the position of the support relative to the article of furniture.

15. For use in supporting an article of furniture of a type having a construction of tubular legs in support of the article of furniture on a floor surface, a glide arrangement configured to be employed between the tubular leg and the floor surface, the one or more tubular legs having an opening defined by edge of the furniture construction to
5 receive the glide arrangement, the glide arrangement comprising:

a body having an upper surface and a lower surface, the upper surface having a plurality of boss sections having a space therebetween, the boss sections configured to collapse radially inward and insert through the opening in the tubular leg; and

10 a wedge coupled to the body and aligned along an axis parallel to the boss sections, the wedge including a plurality of radially-outward extending guide members aligned generally perpendicular relative to one other, wherein the wedge is operable to force the collapsed boss sections in a radially outward direction such that the boss sections engage against the respective tubular leg construction that defines the opening to secure the glide arrangement to the article of furniture.

16. The glide arrangement of claim 15, wherein the wedge is initially formed in an extended position, wherein the wedge is interconnected with the body via one or more frangible connectors, and wherein the one or more frangible members are operable to break when the wedge is subjected to an applied force that tends to move the wedge from
5 the extended position into the passage defined by the boss sections.

14

17. The support of claim 15, wherein each of the plurality of mounting boss sections includes a free end having a tapered edge configured to enhance insertion of the mounting boss sections into the opening in the article of furniture.

18. The support of claim 15, wherein adjacent mounting boss sections define a space therebetween.

19. The support of claim 18, wherein the wedge includes one or more radially-outward extending guide members aligned generally perpendicular relative to one another, and wherein the one more radially-outward extending guide members are operable to move into the respective space defined between the adjacent mounting boss sections.

20. The support of claim 19, wherein one or more of the radially outward extending guide members includes a tab extending radially outward from the guide member, and wherein the body includes one or more slots configured to receive the tab, respectively.

21. A support member for an article of furniture or the like, comprising:

a body member having a collapsible sectioned mounting boss formed by axial passage structure, wherein the mounting boss is adapted to be engaged within an opening in the article of furniture such that engagement of the mounting boss with the edge of the opening functions to move the mounting boss to a collapsed condition in which the sections of the mounting boss are moved together; and

a wedge member adapted to be driven into the passage structure, wherein the wedge member is configured so as to move the boss sections apart so as to engage the boss sections with the edge of the opening to secure the body member to the article of furniture.

22. The support of claim 21, wherein the wedge member and the body member are formed integrally with each other, wherein the wedge member is initially formed in an extended position and is interconnected with the body member via one or more frangible members that break when the wedge member is subjected to a pounding force that tends to move wedge member into the passage arrangement.

23. A method of mounting a support member to an article of furniture or the like having an opening, comprising the steps of:

inserting a mounting boss associated with the support member into the opening, wherein the mounting boss has a sectional construction and wherein the opening is configured so as to collapse the sections of the mounting boss together when the mounting boss is inserted into the opening; and

driving a wedge member in an inward direction into passage structure defined by the mounting boss between the sections of the mounting boss, wherein the wedge member is configured so as to move the mounting boss sections outwardly into engagement with the edge of the opening as the wedge member is driven into the passage structure.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the wedge member and the body member are formed integrally with each other and are interconnected by frangible members that maintain the wedge member in the extended position, wherein the step of driving the wedge member inwardly includes severing the frangible members so as to enable inward movement of the wedge member relative to the body member.

25. A member, comprising:
an area including an opening; and
a support adapted for engagement with the member adjacent the opening, including a body member having a mounting member including one or more sections that are separated from each other, wherein the opening is configured such that engagement of the one or more mounting member sections within the opening functions to collapse the mounting member sections together; and

a wedge member adapted to be driven into passage structure defined by the mounting member for expanding the mounting member sections outwardly so as to cause the mounting member sections to engage the edge of the opening and to thereby maintain the body member in engagement within the opening.

26. The member of claim 25, wherein the wedge member and the body member are formed integrally with each other and are interconnected via frangible

16

connectors that maintain the wedge member in an extended position prior to inward movement of the wedge member into the passage structure defined by the mounting member.